IN THE CLAIMS

(1) Claim 1: (original) A method for processing import/export transactions over a network, comprising the steps of: inputting invoice data associated with an import/export transaction at a first terminal coupled to the network, wherein the invoice data includes a product identifier identifying a product to be transported in the import/export transaction;

transferring the invoice data from the first terminal to a server hosting a database of product identifiers and tariff classification information particular to each of the product identifiers;

matching the product identifier identifying the product to the product identifiers in the database; and

outputting a data record in response to the matching step, wherein the data record includes tariff classification information associated with the product identifier identifying the product.

(2) Claim 2: (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of outputting the data record includes the step of e-mailing the data record to a second terminal coupled to the network.

(3) Claim 3: (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of outputting the data record includes the step of downloading the data record to a second terminal coupled to the network.

(4) Claim 4: (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of outputting the data record includes the step of printing the data record.

(5) Claim 5: (original) The method as recited in claim 3, wherein the data record is downloaded in response to access of the data record in the server by a second terminal using a web browser.

(6) Claim 6: (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the inputting step further comprises the step of:

electronically transmitting the invoice data from the first terminal to the server.

(7) Claim 7: (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the inputting step further comprises the step of inputting the invoice data into a web site associated with the database.

(8) Claim 8: (original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of:

updating the database from a third terminal coupled to the network.

(9) Claim 9: (original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of:

recording results of the matching step into a transaction database hosted by the server.

(10) Claim 10: (original) A system for processing import/export transactions over a network, comprising:

means for inputting invoice data associated with an import/export transaction at a first terminal coupled to the network, wherein the invoice data includes a product identifier identifying a product to be transported in the import/export transaction;

means for transferring the invoice data from the first terminal to a server hosting a database of product identifiers and tariff classification information particular to each of the product identifiers;

means for matching the product identifiers identifying the product to the product identifiers in the database; and

means for outputting a data record in response to the matching of the product identifier identifying the product to the product identifiers in the database, wherein the data record includes tariff classification information associated with the product identifiers identifying the product.

(11) Claim 11: (original) The system as recited in claim 10, wherein the outputting means includes a means for e-mailing the data record to a second terminal coupled to the network.

(12) Claim 12: (original) The system as recited in claim 10, wherein the outputting means includes a means for downloading the data record to a second terminal coupled to the network.

(13) Claim 13: (original) The system as recited in claim 10, wherein the outputting means includes a means for printing the data record.

(14) Claim 14: (original) The system as recited in claim 12, wherein the data record is downloaded in response to access of the data record in the server by the second terminal using a web browser, wherein the network is the Internet.

(15) Claim 15: (original) The system as recited in claim 10, wherein the inputting means further comprises:

means for electronically transmitting the invoice data from the first terminal to the server.

(16) Claim 16: (original) The system as recited in claim 10, wherein the inputting means further comprises means for inputting the invoice data into a web site associated with the database.

(17) Claim 17: (original) The system as recited in claim 10, further comprising: means for updating the database from a third terminal coupled to the network.

(18) Claim 18: (original) The system as recited in claim 10, further comprising: means for recording results of the matching step into a transaction database hosted by the server.

(19) Claim 19: (original) A system for processing import/export transactions over the Internet, comprising:

a server, coupled to the Internet, hosting a database of product identifiers and corresponding import/export transaction information.

a first computer, coupled to the Internet, operable for uploading invoice data, containing at least one product identifier associated with an import/export item, to the server over the Internet;

a program operable for matching the at least one product identifier with a product identifier contained in the database of product identifiers and outputting a data record including import/export transaction information corresponding to the at least one product identifier, and

a second computer, coupled to the Internet, operable for accessing the data record over the Internet.

(20) Claim 20: (original) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein the first computer uploads the invoice data via a web link associated with the server.

(21) Claim 21: (original) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein the second computer accesses the data record via web link between the second computer and the server.

(22) Claim 22: (original) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein the data record is transformed into a customs report for transmittal to a customs entity.

(23) Claim 23: (original) The system as recited in claim 19, further comprising:

a program operable for updating the database.

(24) Claim 24: (currently amended) A computer program product [[adaptable]] for storage on a computer readable medium and operable for processing an import/export transaction over the Internet, comprising:

first programming steps operable for establishing a first web page, accessible by a first user at a first terminal coupled to the Internet using a web browser, that permits the first user to input invoice data associated with an import/export transaction, wherein the invoice data includes a product identifier for a product to be transported in the import/export transaction;

second programming steps operable for matching the product identifier included in the invoice data to a database of product identifiers and corresponding tariff classifications resulting in an output of a data record containing a tariff classification matched with the product identifier identifying the product to be transported in the import/export transaction; and

third programming steps operable for establishing a second web page, accessible by a second user at a second terminal coupled to the Internet using a web browser, that permits the second user to output the data record through the second web page.

(25) Claim 25: (original) The computer program product as recited in claim 24, wherein the database is stored on a server coupled to the Internet.

(26) Claim 26: (original) The computer program product as recited in claim 24, further comprising:

fourth programming steps operable for establishing a third web page, accessible by a third user at a third terminal coupled to the Internet using a web browser, that permits the third user to update the product identifiers and corresponding tariff classifications in the database.

(27) Claim 27: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the product identifier is unique to a particular company.

(28) Claim 28: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 27, wherein the import/export transaction is associated with the particular company.

(29) Claim 29: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the first terminal is coupled to the server over the network.

(30) Claim 30: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the matching step results in the tariff classification information being assigned to the product identifier included in the invoice data.

(31) Claim 31: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of:

modifying the database to update the product identifiers and/or tariff classification information particular to each of the product identifiers to ensure an accuracy of associations between the product identifiers and corresponding tariff classification information.

(32) Claim 32: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the invoice data lists products to be imported/exported, and each product is identified with a product identifier.

(33) Claim 33: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the tariff classification information is a harmonized tariff number for a particular country.

(34) Claim 34: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of creating a customs entry report for the import/export transaction.

(35) Claim 35: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 34, wherein the customs entry report is sorted by tariff numbers.

(36) Claim 36: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 34, further comprising a step of creating a master report to facilitate the import/export transaction.

(37) Claim 37: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying a harmonized tariff schedule in a split screen during the matching step.

(38) Claim 38: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the database of product identifiers and tariff classification information is customized on a per customer basis to ensure that the matching of the product identifiers with the tariff classification numbers is in compliance with local customs regulations.

(39) Claim 39: (previously presented) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein at least one product identifier is unique to a particular company.

(40) Claim 40: (previously presented) The system as recited in claim 39, wherein the import/export transaction is associated with the particular company.

(41) Claim 41: (previously presented) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein the first computer is coupled to the server over the Internet.

(42) Claim 42: (previously presented) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein the matching program results in the import/export transaction information being assigned to the product identifier included in the invoice data.

(43) Claim 43: (previously presented) The system as recited in claim 19, further comprising:

a program operable for modifying the database to update the product identifiers and/or import/export transaction information corresponding to each of the product identifiers to ensure legal compliance of associations between the product identifiers and corresponding import/export transaction information.

(44) Claim 44: (previously presented) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein the invoice data lists products to be imported/exported, and each product is identified with a product identifier.

(45) Claim 45: (previously presented) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein the import/export transaction information is a harmonized tariff number for a particular country.

(46) Claim 46: (previously presented) The computer program product as recited in claim 24, wherein the product identifier is unique to a particular company.

(47) Claim 47: (currently amended) The computer program product as recited in claim 46 [[45]], wherein the import/export transaction is associated with the particular company.

(48) Claim 48: (previously presented) The computer program product as recited in claim 24, wherein the matching steps result in the tariff classifications being assigned to the product identifiers included in the invoice data.

(49) Claim 49: (previously presented) The computer program product as recited in claim 24, wherein the tariff classifications are harmonized tariff numbers for a particular country.

(50) Claim 50: (previously presented) The computer program product as recited in claim 24, wherein the database of product identifiers and tariff classifications is customized on a per customer basis to ensure that the matching of the product identifiers with the tariff classifications is in compliance with local customs regulations.

(51) Claim 51: (previously presented) A method for importing products into a country, comprising the steps of:

creating an invoice representing a purchase of the products by a customer resident within the country, wherein the invoice lists the products by product number;

uploading invoice data over a network to a server from a workstation coupled to the server over the network, wherein the invoice data is an electronic version of the invoice;

creating a database of customer products and tariff classification information, wherein the database is accessible by the server, wherein the database comprises product numbers for products particularly associated with the customer, wherein the product numbers are each assigned a harmonized tariff number particular to the country;

comparing the product numbers in the invoice data to product numbers in the database to compile a customs entry report where the product numbers in the invoice are each assigned a harmonized tariff number;

using the customs entry report to create a master report to facilitate entry of the products into the country, wherein the master report includes the harmonized tariff numbers assigned to each of the product numbers; and

sending the master report to a government customs office.

(52) Claim 52: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 50, further comprising the step of updating the database to ensure that the associations of the harmonized tariff numbers with the customer's product numbers are in compliance with the country's customs regulations.

(53) Claim 53: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 50, further comprising the steps of:

importing the products into the country; and

facilitating passage of the products through the country's customs office using the master report created as a result of the comparing step.

(54) Claim 54: (canceled)

(55) Claim 55: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of maintaining compliance of the database with current tariff regulations.

(56) Claim 56: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of importing the product into a country using the data record.

(57) Claim 57: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of exporting the product into a country using the data record.

(58) Claim 58: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 55, wherein the data record is used to facilitate the importing of the product into the country.

(59) Claim 59: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 31, wherein the data record is used to create a customs entry report to facilitate the importing of the product into the country.

(60) Claim 60: (previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of linking to a harmonized tariff schedule in a split screen with the data record.

(61) Claim 61: (previously presented) A method comprising the steps of:

inputting invoice data associated with an import/export transaction at a first terminal coupled to a computer network, wherein the invoice data includes a product identifier identifying a product to be transported in the import/export transaction;

transferring the invoice data from the first terminal to a server hosting a database of product identifiers and tariff classification information particular to each of the product identifiers;

matching the product identifier identifying the product to the product identifiers in the database; and

outputting a data record in response to the matching step, wherein the data record includes tariff classification information associated with the product identifier identifying the product;

importing a product into a country using the data record.

(62) Claim 62. (previously presented) A method for importing products into a country, comprising the steps of:

creating an invoice representing a purchase of the products by a customer resident within the country, wherein the invoice lists the products by product number;

uploading invoice data over a network to a server from a workstation coupled to the server over the network, wherein the invoice data is an electronic version of the invoice;

creating a database of customer products and tariff classification information, wherein the database is accessible by the server, wherein the database comprises product numbers for products particularly associated with the customer, wherein the product numbers are each assigned a harmonized tariff number particular to the country;

comparing the product numbers in the invoice data to product numbers in the database to compile a customs entry report where the product numbers in the invoice are each assigned a harmonized tariff number;

using the customs entry report to create a master report to facilitate entry of the products into the country, wherein the master report includes the harmonized tariff numbers assigned to each of the product numbers;

sending the master report to a government customs office;

importing the products into the country; and

facilitating passage of the products through the country's customs office using the master report created as a result of the comparing step.